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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/774,346	01/31/2001	Suggy S. Chrai	176650-96	2597

35509 7590 04/03/2003

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EXAMINER	
GEORGE, KONATA M	
ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER

1616

DATE MAILED: 04/03/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



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EXAMINER

GEORGE, KONATA M

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
1616	14

DATE MAILED: 03/17/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

* Restarted time 4/3/03
due to Address was never
changed (4/2/03 B.M.)

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/774,346	CHRAI ET AL.
	Examiner Konata M. George	Art Unit 1616

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 January 2003.

2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-10, 17-19, 21-35 and 38-41 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) 38-41 is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 1-10, 17-19 and 21-35 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11) The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) approved b) disapproved by the Examiner.

 If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some * c) None of:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).

a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____

2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ 6) Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claims 1-10, 17-19, 21-35 and 38-41 are pending in this application.

Action Summary

1. Examiner acknowledges the addition of claims 38-41.
2. The rejection of claims of 1-10, 17-19 and 21-35 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Mlodozieniec is being maintained for the reasons stated in the office action dated August 27, 2002.

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments filed January 22, 2003 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicants argue the prior art does not teach a pharmaceutical dosage unit having at least one active agent being deposited in separate discrete spaced locations on the substrate and applicant cites col. 26, lines 48-54 as further evidence. It is the position of the examiner that although having the active agent "spot deposited" on the dosage form is not the preferred embodiment of the prior art, it is still disclosed as an additional embodiment. Furhter, the "spot deposited" active substance are in separate discrete locations as col. 26, lines 44-46 describe depositing the active agent at "short intervals" which can read on separate discrete locations.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 38-41 are allowed.

Conclusion

5. Claims 1-10, 17-19 and 21-35 stand rejected.

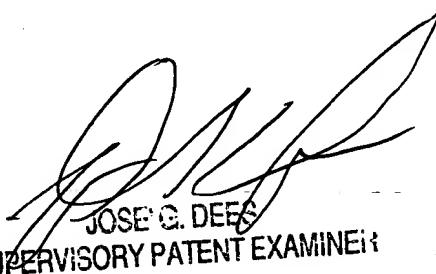
Telephone Inquiries

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Konata M. George, whose telephone number is (703) 308-4646. The examiner can normally be reached from 8AM to 5:30PM Monday to Thursday, and on alternate Fridays.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, José Dees, can be reached at (703) 308-4628. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 308-4556 for regular communications and for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1235.

Konata M. George



JOSE G. DEES
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

1616